



## Borough of Aylesbury

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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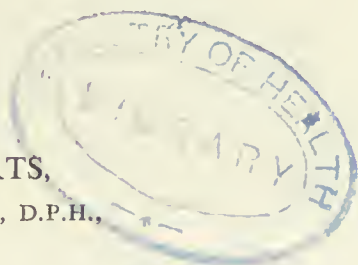
# ANNUAL REPORT

*on the health of the Borough  
for the year, 1952*

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J. T. C. SIMS-ROBERTS,  
M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
Barrister at Law.  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

W. EWART RUSE, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,  
BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR.



## HEALTH COMMITTEE.

(Constituted May, 1952).

Councillor Mrs. Arthur (Chairman).  
 Councillor Mrs. White (The Mayor).  
 Alderman J. S. Holland (Deputy Mayor).  
 Councillor Black (Vice-Chairman).  
 Councillor Bramble.  
 Councillor Cousins.  
 Councillor Hall.  
 Councillor Jones.  
 Councillor F. C. Mayne.  
 Councillor Wallace.

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## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

John T. C. Sims-Roberts,  
 M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
 Barrister at Law,

### CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR:

W. Ewart Ruse, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

### ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS:

Douglas Andrew, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.  
 Dennis W. Rixon, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

### CLERICAL STAFF:

Douglas A. Keen, C.R.San.I.  
 Derek S. Wells (serving in H.M. Forces).  
 Hazel R. Goodyer.

## Borough of Aylesbury

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
AYLESBURY.

June, 1953.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and vital statistics of the Borough of Aylesbury for 1952.

Sporadic cases of Anterior Poliomyelitis commenced to occur in scattered areas of the Borough from May onwards throughout the year. Eighteen cases were notified, fourteen of which were paralytic and four non-paralytic. The death of a newborn infant in a nursing home made imperative the advisability of immediate closure. There was complete co-operation. Two further deaths of infant inmates occurred following closure. All cases were treated locally in hospital.

Of the seventeen cases of Sonnei Dysentery, sixteen were notified from the Manor House, an institution for mental defectives. A mild case of Food Poisoning recovered, but the causal organism was not isolated. The Typhi-murium organism was isolated from a child who made an uneventful recovery in hospital. The single case of Para-typhoid occurred in a nurse in hospital who left the district. Notification was forwarded to her employers—a hospital authority.

The number of Measles cases was considerably less than the previous year. There were slightly more cases of Scarlet Fever notified. Only thirteen were treated in hospital, there being a general tendency with the advance in antibiotics and chemotherapy to treat the commoner infectious diseases at home.

Diphtheria was again conspicuous by its absence from the list of diseases notified in the Borough. It is to be earnestly hoped that parents do not become complacent but continue to have their children immunised on reaching the age of six to nine months old. Reports of outbreaks of this disease in other parts of the country give a solemn warning that Diphtheria is still present and liable to kill the unprotected.

My thanks are due to the Council and Public Health Committee for assistance throughout the year, also to Mr. Ruse, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and the staff of the Health Department for their vigilance in assisting to maintain healthy conditions in the Borough.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. T. C. SIMS-ROBERTS,

M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area ... ..	3,288 acres.
Population (estimated mid-1952) ... ..	20,860
Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1952 according to Rate Books) ... ..	6,017
Rateable Value ... ..	£197,671
Sum represented by a penny rate ... ..	£784

## UNEMPLOYMENT.

At December 31st, 1951.

\*30 women.

7 men.

37

—

At December 31st, 1952.

†36 women.

‡18 men.

54

—

\* Includes 21 non-claimants.

† " 27 " "

‡ " 1 non-claimant.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

## BIRTHS.

<i>Live Births:—</i>	1951.			1952.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate ... ..	1 1/8	153	331	174	158	332
Illegitimate ... ..	8	6	14	11	9	20
Rate per 1,000 estimated population ... ..	16.80			16.87		
Rate (corrected) ... ..	15.62			15.69		
Rate for England and Wales	15.5			15.3		
<i>Still Births:—</i>	1951.			1952.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate ... ..	5	2	7	—	3	3
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 estimated population (live & still) births ... ..	17.15			17.02		

## DEATHS.

	1951.			1952.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Deaths ... ..	96	102	198	103	90	193
Rate per 1,000 estimated population ... ..	9.64			9.25		
Standardised Rate ... ..	9.93			9.53		
Rate for England and Wales	12.5			11.3		
<i>Deaths of infants under one year of age:—</i>	1951.			1952.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate ... ..	8	5	13	5	3	8
Illegitimate ... ..	1	—	1	1	1	2

*Rate of Infants under one year of age:—*

	1951.	1952.
All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	40.58	28.41
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	39.27	24.10
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	71.43	100.0

*Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age:—*

	1951.			1952.		
	M	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate ... ..	6	3	9	3	3	6
Illegitimate ... ..	1	—	1	1	1	2
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births ... ..	28.99			22.73		

## ANALYSIS OF DEATHS.

	M.	F.
Respiratory Tuberculosis ... ..	1	—
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	2	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	7	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	7	11
Leukaemia ... ..	1	—
Diabetes ... ..	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	14	18
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	16	8
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	3	6
Other heart disease ... ..	12	12
Other circulatory disease ... ..	5	3
Pneumonia ... ..	5	8
Bronchitis ... ..	8	1
Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	2	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	—	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	2	—
Congenital malformations ... ..	3	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	8	5
Motor vehicle accident ... ..	1	—
Accidents (excluding motor vehicle) ... ..	2	2
Suicide ... ..	2	—
	<hr/> 103	<hr/> 90

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

### *Hospitals.*

During the year the Royal Bucks, Tindal General and Stoke Mandeville Hospitals have provided accommodation for surgical and medical cases, whilst the Isolation Hospital continued to admit persons suffering from infectious diseases.

Stoke Mandeville Hospital also provided accommodation for paraplegic cases.

The above hospitals situated in the Borough are administered by the Royal Buckinghamshire and Associated Hospitals Management Committee who are responsible to the Oxford Regional Hospital Board.

### *Pathology Laboratory, Stoke Mandeville Hospital.*

Routine samples of milk, water and ice cream and other specimens requiring pathological examination are submitted to the above. When necessary the services of the Public Health Laboratories at Luton and Oxford are utilised.

### *Ambulance Services.*

Eight ambulances, including two sitting-case type, are stationed in Buckingham Street for use in the town and surrounding districts.

The Isolation Hospital do not now garage an ambulance specifically for the transportation of infectious disease cases, such work being carried out by the above ambulance service.

### *Maternity and Child Welfare.*

Infant Welfare Clinics are still held at Pebble Lane, Quarrendon Estate and Southcourt and controlled by the Bucks County Council.

### *Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation.*

As the Local Health Authority, defined in the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Bucks County Council control the immunisation of children against these diseases.

### *Treatment of Venereal Disease.*

The Royal Buckinghamshire and Associated Hospital Management Committee administer a clinic held regularly at the Royal Bucks Hospital for the treatment of the above disease.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

### *Water Supply.*

The water supply of the Borough is obtained through the Bucks Water Board from wells situated at Dancers End, New Ground and Hawridge, which are on the Chiltern Hills.



Periodic sampling is carried out by the Water Authority at their wells and also in the town. The following table gives the number of samples submitted by the Bucks Water Board for bacteriological examination during the year:—

	Raw Water.	Treated Water.
New Ground ... ..	13	—
Dancers End ... ..	11	11
Hawridge ... ..	6	4
Domestic sources in the Borough	—	1

On examination all the above samples were found to be satisfactory and the following statement was the summary on most reports.

“This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals.

These are very satisfactory results, indicative of a water which is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes.”

Twelve samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination by this Department at monthly intervals from domestic sources in the Borough. Reports proved that the water was satisfactory in all cases.

All houses in the Borough are connected to the main supply and the quantity of water supplied to the town is adequate.

#### *Drainage and Sewerage.*

The drainage and sewerage of the Borough is partially on the separate system with surface water from streets and buildings in various parts being discharged to water courses. The whole system has continued to work satisfactorily throughout the year and no further complaints of flooding have been received.

In the low lying districts sewage is raised into the main sewers by means of pumping stations situated at Buckingham Road, California, Mandeville Road and Tring Road.

#### *Sewage Disposal Works.*

The Sewage Disposal Works situated on the western outskirts of the town receives all sewage from the Borough and of two Parishes in the adjacent Rural District.

The plant, which consists of detritus and sedimentation tanks, followed by rotary filters and land treatment, was last enlarged and brought up to date some thirty years ago. In consequence of the rapid growth of the town over the past years, the effect of these improvements has been to a great degree nullified, so that while the plant continues to deal effectively with the flow during dry

weather periods, in times of rain flooding results and on occasions the effluent is adversely affected. Bearing in mind the age of the plant, the possibility of mechanical failure is a factor which has to be given due consideration.

Plans have been drawn up for the provision of a new disposal plant, and in view of the continued growth of the Borough and its industries, it is essential that this work be proceeded with as soon as possible.

### *Public Cleansing.*

Refuse disposal has continued to be by means of incineration at the Council's Destruction Works, as loan sanction for the proposed controlled tip has not yet been made.

The incinerator plant is insufficient in capacity and worn out and has to receive constant attention to keep it in working order. Any major breakdown of this plant would mean that crude tipping would have to be resorted to for the disposal of refuse, to the detriment of the health of the Borough, and it is to be hoped that the sanction for the work at the controlled tip will be received very soon.

The collection of refuse is done by modern vehicles, and both this service and that of street cleansing continue to be operated in an efficient manner.

### *Open-Air Swimming Pool, Park Street.*

The water in the Pool circulates continuously throughout the period of use, being filtered and chlorinated before re-introduction to the swimming pool.

Eight samples of water were taken during the Summer months and all were found to contain sufficient chlorine to render the water innocuous, proving the plant was being operated satisfactorily.

### *Slipper Baths, Bourbon Street.*

The slipper baths continue to be used and their condition throughout the year has been satisfactory.

### *Eradication of Bed Bugs.*

A further reduction in the number of rooms requiring disinfection from twenty-two to thirteen was noted during the year. The decrease in the number of rooms requiring treatment which has been maintained over the post-war years, coincides with the use of the new insecticides D.D.T. and B.H.C., and points to the efficiency of these materials compared with those used pre-war.



### *Schools.*

The water supply and sanitary accommodation to all schools in the Borough are adequate. The school mentioned in the last report has now had the automatic flushing cistern overhauled which is working satisfactorily, but the continued use of the "trough closet" is undesirable.

### *Local Rainfall.*

January	...	...	1.62 ins.	July	...	...	0.505 ins.
February	...	...	0.50 "	August	...	...	2.635 "
March	...	...	1.735 "	September	...	...	2.585 "
April	...	...	1.35 "	October	...	...	2.60 "
May	...	...	2.06 "	November	...	...	2.90 "
June	...	...	1.25 "	December	...	...	2.46 "

Total rainfall for the year—22.2 inches.

(Figures supplied by Mr. J. D. Dugdale, Borough Engineer and Surveyor).

Mr. Dugdale stated that rain fell on 170 days during the year compared with 182 in 1951. The figure of 0.505 inches for July is the lowest recording for that month since 1921, and with 0.50 inches it was the driest February since 1934.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### *(a) Milk Supply.*

Messrs. Nesmilk, Ltd., and the Aylesbury Co-operative Society are licensed by the Bucks County Council to pasteurise milk in the Borough. Both carry out this treatment on a large scale and their premises are equipped with "holder" type plants.

The Bucks County Council carry out sampling of this milk at the plants to ensure that it is being efficiently heat treated.

The undermentioned dealers were licensed during the past year to use the special designations "Tuberculin Tested," "Pasteurised" and "Sterilised" in relation to milk sold in the Borough.

### *"Tuberculin Tested" and "Pasteurised."*

F. J. Child, 156, Cambridge Street, Aylesbury.

W. Cartwright, 61, Buckingham Street, Aylesbury.

Dickins & Warner, 8, Albion Street, Aylesbury.

L. J. Evett & Co., 99, Park Street, Aylesbury.

W. Hodgkins, 87, Wendover Road, Aylesbury.

Hornby & Clarke, Ltd., Princes Street, Richmond.

J. Lisley & Son, 83, Tring Road, Aylesbury.

Nestle Co., Ltd., High Street, Aylesbury.

A. Willis, Tindal Road, Aylesbury.

H. H. Willis, 2, Ascott Road, Aylesbury.

W. H. Willis, 6, Manor Drive, Aylesbury.

A. T. Pigott, 139, Wendover Road, Aylesbury.

*"Tuberculin Tested."*

Aylesbury Co-operative Society, Ltd., High Street, Aylesbury.  
Nesmilk Ltd., High Street, Aylesbury.

*"Sterilised."*

Hornby & Clarke, Princes Street, Richmond.

(b) *Meat and Other Foods.*

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
<i>Carcases Inspected and Condemned.</i>					
Number Killed and Inspected	1,939	441	1,972	6,236	1,152
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ...	6	14	8	27	12
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	687	119	5	273	288
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	35.74%	30.16%	0.66%	4.81%	26.04%
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ...	6	21	—	—	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	132	51	1	—	31
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	7.12%	16.33%	0.05%	—	2.86%

The Ministry of Food control the only slaughter-house in use in the Borough which is situated in Silver Lane.

Fourteen licences were issued to slaughtermen during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

	1951.	Total notifications received.		Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	
		Male.	Female.	1951.	1952.
Measles ...	622	28	38	3	2
Whooping Cough ...	126	2	—	10	—
Sonnei Dysentery ...	35	11	6	3	—
Pneumonia ...	29	2	2	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	22	15	14	13	13
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	19	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	16	—	38	—	1
Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	2	8	10	1	15
Post-infective Encephalitis ...	1	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas ...	—	1	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	1	—	—	—
Paratyphoid B ...	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery (Typhi-murium) ...	—	1	—	—	—

*Incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the year, with  
Analysis under Age Groups.*

	0—1 yr.	1—2 yrs.	2—3 yrs.	3—4 yrs.	4—5 yrs.	5—10 yrs.	10—15 yrs.	15—20 yrs.	20—35 yrs.	35—45 yrs.	45—65 yrs.	Over 65 yrs.	Age unknown.	Totals.
Measles ... ..	3	10	11	16	12	11	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	66
Whooping Cough	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Sonnei Dysentery	—	—	—	—	2	8	2	3	2	—	—	—	—	17
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
Scarlet Fever ...	—	2	1	8	5	12	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	29
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	28	5	—	—	—	38
Anterior Poliomyelitis	4	3	1	5	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	18
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid B	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery (Typhi-Murium)	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

Age Groups.						New Cases.			
						Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
						M.	F.	M.	F.
0 — ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
1 — ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
5 — ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	2 (1)	1	—
15 — ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	6 (1)	—	—
25 — ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3 (1)	8 (6)	—	1
35 — ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1 (1)	1	—	1
45 — ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
55 — ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Age unknown	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
						8 (2)	18 (8)	1	2

The figures in brackets denote the number of cases notified originally in other districts and who have moved into the Borough during the year, and are included in the above totals and respective age groups.

The Isolation Hospital in Mandeville Road has a block containing 15 beds for the treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

*Deaths from Tuberculosis.*

Respiratory ... ..	M.	F.
Non-Respiratory ... ..	—	1
Death Rate per 1,000 population ...	0·10	

## FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

Informal action has been taken where necessary under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and the Public Health Act, 1936, to remedy contraventions of the requirements of these Acts in mechanical and non-mechanical factories and workplaces.

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

#### 1. Inspection for the purposes of provision as to health.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories without mechanical power	41	Nil.	Nil.
Factories with mechanical power ...			

#### 2 Defects found.

#### Number of defects.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	In respect of which prosecutions were instituted.
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1) ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (Sec. 2) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (Sec. 3) ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (Sec. 4) ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec. 6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:— (Sec. 7).				
Insufficient ...	3	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	1	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act	—	—	—	—
Total ...	4	1	—	—

#### *Outwork in Unwholesome Premises.*

There are six outworkers' premises in the town, all of which are in a satisfactory condition.

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
AYLESBURY.

January, 1953.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work carried out by the Public Health Department during the year 1952, this being the tenth such report it has been my privilege to present.

In looking back it is interesting to note that of the Health Committee for the year covered by my first report, only two still remain members of the Council, and neither of them now serve on this Committee. My staff was composed entirely of temporary members, Mr. Andrew being a prisoner of war in Burma, and Messrs. Rixon and Keen serving in the R.A.M.C. and R.A.F. respectively. For reasons of national security certain restrictions were placed on the compilation of the report, including the suppression of the population figures. Due no doubt to the war effort, there were no unemployed persons in December, 1943, while last year there were 54.

War-time conditions are emphasised in three sections of the 1943 report, the inspection of billets, disinfestation of bedding and clothing returned from billets, and the training of the Food Decontamination squad. On the subject of disinfestation it is noteworthy that 111 rooms and 5 houses were treated for vermin in 1943, while last year only 13 rooms were so treated. This marked improvement is due in my opinion to two main causes:

- (a) the general raising of the standard of education and cleanliness of the people;
- (b) the great improvement in the materials and methods of disinfestation.

In the field of meat inspection surprisingly little change has taken place. The total number of animals killed last year was 440 less than in 1943, but an analysis of the figures shows that while sheep decreased by 1,485 and calves by 418, cattle killed increased by 462 and pigs by 1,001, so that the amount of detailed inspection required actually increased, and the weight of carcase meat sent out from the slaughterhouse probably showed very little variation. The incidence of tuberculosis in cattle shows a well marked improvement, the percentage affected falling from 34.11% to 16.33% in cows, and from 11.32% to 7.12% in other cattle.



Work of rodent destruction has made great progress since 1943, and the rat population has been greatly depleted. In 1943, 29 visits were made in this connection, and it was estimated that 367 rats were destroyed. Last year 53 visits were made by Sanitary Inspectors in addition to the duties of a full time rat catcher, and 698 rat and mouse bodies were picked up following treatment, the number actually killed being probably twice or three times this number.

## HOUSING.

The resumption of routine housing inspection has once again had to be postponed, in view of the fact that no revision of rent control legislation has taken place. This matter was referred to in a paper on Housing read at the Conference of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association, and a resolution was carried calling urgent attention to the plight of families still forced to live in sub-standard accommodation which is further deteriorating, and inviting the Government to recall the special Committee formed to consider the advisability of a rent reform.

That this is a matter of vital importance is evidenced by the fact that it is referred to in the Annual Report of practically every Chief Sanitary Inspector in the country, while in a number of districts the Housing Act procedure for repair of houses has been abandoned and action for the repairs is taken under the Nuisance section of the Public Health Act. This action deprives the owner of the defence of reasonable cost allowed him under the Housing Act, and in my opinion is wrong, but it does indicate the seriousness of the position that certain Officers have followed this course in an effort to get work done.

40 visits of inspection and 220 re-inspections of dwelling houses were made during the year, resulting in the serving of 27 informal and 3 Statutory notices, and the repair of 26 houses.

### *Overcrowding.*

Investigations into alleged overcrowding were made on ten occasions during the year, and overcrowding within the Housing Act definition was found in four cases and referred to the Housing Department for assistance. When it is realised that the Permitted Number under the Housing Act for a normal three bedroomed house is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  to  $9\frac{1}{2}$  persons, it will be appreciated that the cases which are legally overcrowded are very bad indeed, and many cases of bad overcrowding cannot be given the assistance they merit as the numbers occupying the house are permissible under the Housing Act.

*Disinfestation.*

Evidence of bed bug infestation was found in 5 premises during the year and 13 rooms were disinfested. D.T.T. solutions and powders containing D.D.T. and B.H.C. were again used with satisfactory results.

## FOOD.

*Slaughterhouse.*

The premises at Silver Lane have continued to be used for the slaughter of animals on behalf of the Ministry of Food.

Arising from the report of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Meat Inspection a new Memorandum on methods and criteria of inspection has been issued to supersede that issued in 1922, and will come into force on February 1st. This largely follows the lines of the earlier memorandum, but introduces new regulations covering the admission of dressed or undressed carcasses to the Slaughterhouse, which in future must be accompanied by a Veterinary Surgeon's certificate. It was hoped that this regulation would have been extended to cover the admission of live casualty animals and steps are being taken to secure the amendment of the memorandum to secure this.

On the question of the provision of a new abattoir for Aylesbury, one can only await with interest the report of the Committee set up to consider the siting of new abattoirs throughout the country.

The number of animals slaughtered during 1952 was as follows:—

	Cows.	Other Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.
1st Quarter ...	78	264	328	1,032	155	1,857
2nd Quarter ...	88	368	200	1,693	465	2,814
3rd Quarter ...	154	762	632	1,531	195	3,274
4th Quarter ...	121	545	812	1,980	337	3,795
	441	1,939	1,972	6,236	1,152	11,740

All the animals were inspected after slaughter, necessitating 699 visits. The results of the inspections are shown in the following tables:—

*Carcases Inspected and Condemned.*

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Killed and Inspected	1,939	441	1,972	6,236	1,152
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	6	14	8	27	12
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	687	119	5	273	288
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ... ..	35.74%	30.16%	0.66%	4.81%	26.04%
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	6	21	—	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	132	51	1	—	31
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	7.12%	16.33%	0.05%	—	2.86%

*Tables showing Condemned Organs of Animals.*

	Head.	Tongue.	Liver.	Lungs.	Heart.	Spleen.	Skirt.	Intest.	Kidneys.	Udder.
<b>CATTLE.</b>										
Distoma										
Hepaticum ...	—	—	492	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cavernous										
Anginoma ...	—	—	38	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Actinomycosis ...	14	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Actinobacillosis ...	23	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis ...	95	95	21	114	—	—	—	9	1	—
Cystic ...	—	—	4	15	—	2	—	—	—	—
Johnes Disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	—	—
Inflammation ...	—	—	7	102	10	32	—	—	2	—
Pleurisy ...	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatids ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abscessed ...	2	—	99	7	—	2	—	—	2	1
Fasciolæ ...	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congestion ...	—	—	—	28	—	—	—	—	1	—
Nephritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Petechiæ ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Mastitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Fatty Change ...	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Tumoured ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Emphysema ...	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Cirrhosis ...	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Carcases Condemned (including all offal).*

Generalised Tuberculosis	...	...	...	27
Dropsy and Emaciation	...	...	...	8
General Emaciation	...	...	...	1
Septic Pericarditis	...	...	...	3
Uraemia	...	...	...	2
Pyæmia and Imperfect Bleeding	...	...	...	1
Dropsy	...	...	...	1
Septicaemia	...	...	...	4
Total				47

In addition to the above, 10 carcasses were found to be affected with *Cysticercus Bovis* and transferred to cold storage at Watford prior to being released for manufacturing purposes.

## SHEEP.

	Head.	Liver.	Lungs.	Heart.
Distoma Hepaticum	—	96	—	—
Parasitic	—	96	23	—
Fatty Change	—	42	—	—
Injured	2	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	2	11	8
Cystic	—	2	2	—
Inflammation	—	1	—	—
Cirrhosis	—	1	—	—
Congestion	1	—	2	1
Abscessed	1	2	—	—

*Carcases Condemned (including all offal).*

Septicaemia	...	...	...	4
Emaciation	...	...	...	2
Septicaemia and Imperfect Bleeding	...	...	...	1
Dropsy	...	...	...	8
Dropsy and Fevered	...	...	...	2
Septic Pneumonia	...	...	...	3
Pyæmia	...	...	...	1
Fevered and Oedematous	...	...	...	1
Congestion and Imperfect Bleeding	...	...	...	2
Jaundiced	...	...	...	2
Anaemia and Dropsy	...	...	...	1
Total				27

PIGS.	Head & Tongue.	Liver.	Lungs.	Heart.	Guts.	Spleen.	Kidneys.
Tuberculosis ...	28	2	5	1	2	1	—
Inflammation ...	—	4	17	8	165	1	1
Cirrhosis ...	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Abscessed ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Congestion ...	—	—	3	1	1	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	79	3	—	—	—
Hypertrophy ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Parasitic ...	—	6	18	1	—	—	—
Fatty Change ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cystic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pericarditis ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Decomposition ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1

*Carcases Condemned (including all offal).*

Septicaemia ...	3
Generalised Tuberculosis ...	1
Tuberculosis and Nephritis ...	1
Dropsy ...	1
Pneumonia and Septic Pericarditis ...	1
Urticarial Rash and Pneumonia ...	1
Decomposition ...	1
Congestion and Insufficient Bleeding ...	1
Moribund ...	1
Septic Injuries ...	1
Erysipelas ...	1
Enteritis ...	1
Total ...	14

**CALVES.**

	Liver.	Lungs.	Pluck.	Guts.
Inflammation ...	—	1	—	—
Tuberculosis ...	—	—	1	—
Cystic ...	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia ...	—	1	—	—
Fatty Change ...	1	—	—	—

*Carcases Condemned (including all offal).*

Dropsy and Emaciation ...	1
Umbilical Pyaemia ...	2
Imperfect Bleeding ...	3
Oedematous ...	1
Bruised and Haemorrhagic ...	1
Total ...	8



*Weight of Condemned Meat and Offal.*

Cow Beef	...	...	...	...	...	16,433 lbs.
Cow Offal	...	...	...	...	...	9,701 „
Other Beef	...	...	...	...	...	7,383 „
Other Bovine Offal	...	...	...	...	...	16,527 „
Pork	...	...	...	...	...	1,677 „
Pork Offal	...	...	...	...	...	1,646 „
Mutton	...	...	...	...	...	1,595 „
Mutton Offal	...	...	...	...	...	1,046 „
Veal	...	...	...	...	...	593 „

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56,601 lbs.

Total: 25 tons 5 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lbs.

Fourteen slaughtermen's licences were issued during the year.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered and disposed of from wholesale and retail premises in the Borough:

*Foodstuffs from Food Premises—*

	Number.	Weight.
Eggs	—	22 lbs.
Cheese	—	48 $\frac{3}{4}$ „
Fresh Fruit	—	75 „
Fresh Meat	—	1,050 $\frac{1}{4}$ „
Fish	—	358 „
Tinned Vegetables	583	1,427 $\frac{1}{4}$ „
Tinned Fruit	960	2,115 $\frac{1}{4}$ „
Tinned Meat	271	650 $\frac{1}{2}$ „
Tinned Fish	31	18 $\frac{1}{2}$ „
Tinned Milk	125	133 „
Preserves	68	88 $\frac{1}{4}$ „
Miscellaneous	—	320 $\frac{3}{4}$ „

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2,038 tins.      6,307 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.

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*Total Foodstuffs condemned during the year—*

Meat and Offal	...	25 tons	5 cwt.	1 qr.	13 lbs.
Various foodstuffs	...	2 tons	15 cwt.	5 qrs.	27 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

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28 tons    1 cwt.    3 qrs. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.

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## MILK AND DAIRIES.

Supervision of milk distributors was continued during the year, 19 visits being paid to dairies and 25 visits made in connection with the obtaining of samples of milk in course of delivery to the consumer.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries continues to control producers of milk, and two firms are licensed for the pasteurisation of milk by the County Council acting as the Food and Drugs Authority.

Following complaints of dirt in milk delivered to a householder in the Borough in the early part of the year, action was taken against the retailer by the County Council acting as the Food and Drugs Authority. The Magistrates were satisfied that the dirt was sterile, and that 'clean' dirt is not harmful and dismissed the case, but I feel that the publicity did good, and no further complaints of dirt, clean or otherwise, in milk have been received during the year.

Licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949, were issued as follows:—

*"Tuberculin Tested" and "Pasteurised" Licences—*

W. Cartwright, 61, Buckingham Street, Aylesbury.  
 F. J. Child, 156, Cambridge Street, Aylesbury.  
 Dickins & Warner, 8, Albion Street, Aylesbury.  
 L. J. Evett & Son, 99, Park Street, Aylesbury.  
 W. Hodgkins, 87, Wendover Road, Aylesbury.  
 Hornby & Clarke, Ltd., Princes Street, Richmond.  
 J. Lisley & Son, 83, Tring Road, Aylesbury.  
 A. T. Piggott, 139, Wendover Road, Aylesbury.  
 A. A. Willis, 3, Tindal Road, Aylesbury.  
 H. H. Willis, 2, Ascott Road, Aylesbury.  
 W. H. Willis, 6, Manor Drive, Aylesbury.  
 Nestle Co., Ltd., High Street, Aylesbury.

*"Tuberculin Tested" Licences only—*

Aylesbury Co-operative Society, High Street, Aylesbury.  
 Nesmilk Ltd., High Street, Aylesbury.

*"Sterilised" Licence—*

Hornby & Clarke, Ltd., Princes Street, Richmond.

Two producers of "Tuberculin Tested" milk licensed by the Milk Regulations Officer, County Farm, Stoke Mandeville, retail milk in the Borough:—

F. J. Davis & Son, Old House Farm, Bierton.  
 R. S. Pearce, Stoke Farm, Stoke Mandeville.

Twenty-five samples of milk were taken in course of delivery to the consumer during the year, with the following results:—

Grade.	Samples taken.	Complied with Regulations.
Tuberculin Tested ... ..	2	1
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ...	7	6
Pasteurised ... ..	16	14

All unsatisfactory samples were investigated and subsequent samples were satisfactory.

### BAKEHOUSES.

No complaints relating to bakehouses were received during the year, and the general satisfactory standard of cleanliness and hygiene was maintained.

### ICE CREAM.

Only one person manufactured ice cream in the Borough during the year, and for the greater part of this year a cold-mix ice cream using previously heat treated ingredients was produced.

73 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream, and the majority of these use pre-packed material.

20 visits were paid to registered premises during the year and 10 samples of ice cream were submitted for analysis, all proving satisfactory.

### FOOD SHOPS, RESTAURANTS, Etc.

Visits to food shops and food preparing premises for the purposes of examining foodstuffs and observing the compliance or otherwise with the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act and Byelaws were made as shown below:—

Market Stalls ... ..	902
Grocers ... ..	188
Butchers ... ..	101
Restaurants ... ..	25
Fishmongers ... ..	13
Food Preparing Premises ... ..	4

### CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

The Exhibition held in conjunction with a “Safety in the Home” Exhibition in February proved most helpful and instructive.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries loaned a rodent display with exhibits of rats and mice and posters and pamphlets giving advice on methods of control. The Gas and Electricity Boards displayed cookers and water heaters, and on the Electricity stand a hot air drier, while the Gas Board gave demonstrations of cookery. Messrs. F. G. Aldens, of Oxford, displayed refrigerators of various types and a Dunstable firm

exhibited a modern shop laid out on hygienic principles in contrast to an ancient shop as devised and laid out by members of the Hygienic Food Traders' Guild. The Cow & Gate and Dominion Dairy Company of Aylesbury, in addition to exhibiting a cheese portion packing machine which visitors were able to see working, had on display bacteriological plates showing the difference between the bacteria present on hands after using the water closet, (a) without washing and (b) after washing; bacteria left on a plate by a fly walking over it, and bacteria present in a cracked cup even after washing. These exhibits were most helpful and attracted a good deal of attention. The Exhibition was highly successful and had an attendance of close on 3,000 persons.

### WATER SUPPLY.

Every house in the Borough is supplied with piped water obtained from the Chiltern Hills by the Bucks Water Board.

The standard of bacterial purity of the water remained satisfactory. Twelve samples taken at monthly intervals were all proved to be within the standards laid down by the Ministry of Health.

One complaint of excessive hardness and turbidity was received and on investigation was found to be caused by a breakdown at one of the pumping stations necessitating the use of a normally disused main.

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

No major infestations of rats and mice were discovered during the year and no abnormal problems encountered. The figures indicate, however, that relaxation of the efforts carried out would soon lead to an increase of the rodent population of the district.

The new poison, Warfarin, has been used with great success. No pre-baiting is required with this method and poison prejudice does not seem to be set up, the rats and mice eating freely of it even after large numbers have been killed.

Eighteen annual agreements with various firms in the town for a total sum of £184 10s. are in operation, all the premises being visited periodically and treated as necessary. The cost of all other work done on business premises was recovered and amounted to £18 5s. A free service is given to private householders, half the cost being met by an Exchequer grant.

The infestation of the sewers as revealed by the service treatment showed no increase.

Nine wasps nests were destroyed during the year.

Private Premises treated	... ..	329
Business Premises treated	... ..	210
Rat bodies found	... ..	494
Mouse bodies found	... ..	204
Points laid at Private Premises	... ..	698
Points laid at Business Premises	... ..	836
Manholes treated	... ..	38
Visits made by—Rodent Operator	... ..	2,276
Sanitary Inspectors	... ..	53

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Mechanical factories on register requiring visiting	... ..	86
Non-mechanical factories on register requiring visiting	... ..	25
Visits paid to Factories	... ..	41

#### SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Closing hours in the Borough are earlier than those allowed in the Act and no action was necessary against any shopkeeper for non-compliance of the Shops Act.

#### PETROLEUM.

Licences issued for storage of Petroleum Spirit and Mixtures	... ..	62
Licences issued for storage of Carbide of Calcium	... ..	1
Inspections of Petrol and Carbide stores	... ..	36

Quantity licensed to be stored:—

Petroleum Spirit	... ..	122,444 gallons.
Petroleum Mixtures	... ..	1,285 „
Carbide of Calcium	... ..	300 lbs.
Total of licence fees	... ..	£47 5s. 0d.

#### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The new convenience at Old Stoke Road was opened in May, and this has attracted the attention of certain persons possessed with a destructive turn of mind. One can only hope it is in the nature of a new toy and that whoever is responsible for the damage which has been committed there will soon tire of their activities.

Apart from this, damage at the Conveniences generally has not been great, but it is impossible to prevent people writing and drawing on the walls, and boring holes in the doors of the compartments for some reason known only to themselves.

The general standard of cleanliness has been maintained during the year, and the High Street, Cattle Market and Old Stoke Road Conveniences are kept open all night.

555 inspections of conveniences were made during the year.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

Other work of the Department included:—

Drainage visits	... ..	335
Miscellaneous Sanitary visits	... ..	181
Interviews	... ..	371
Complaints received and investigated	... ..	92
Nuisances found	... ..	42
Nuisances abated	... ..	36
Infected House visits	... ..	42
Smoke Observations	... ..	31
Moveable Dwellings inspected	... ..	15
Marine Stores visits	... ..	12
Informal Notices served under Public Health Act	... ..	27
Statutory Notices served under Public Health Act	... ..	3

My thanks are once again due to the members of the Council for their continued help and confidence, to all the members of my staff for their loyal and wholehearted co-operation and to my fellow officers for advice and assistance readily given.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

W. EWART RUSE, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.,

Borough Sanitary Inspector.